

40: Don't Force Me to Take Action

"So these are Quade's dirty tricks?"

Caitlin smiled coldly.

"Good! This came at the perfect time!"

Though she didn't know who had sent her the information, these revelations were definitely useful.

Quade, you're in for it! Let's see who's going to be on their knees begging for mercy now!

The Gray Family.

The head of the family, Quade, along with his wife, son, and other family members, were waiting in the main residence. They were all anticipating Caitlin, the woman from The Vanderbilt Family, to come and apologize.

Audrey, dressed to the nines, was ready for the apology. She knew her family would film the entire thing, and the footage would be shared online, so she had to present herself as the powerful matriarch.

Glancing at the time, Audrey asked, "Why hasn't Caitlin arrived yet? Could she be backing out?"

Quade, sitting with his characteristic mustache and official air, spoke confidently, "I've already put pressure on The Vanderbilt Family. She won't dare to refuse."

The butler said, "I'll go check at the door."

Moments later, the butler returned with Caitlin in tow.



"She's here, she's here!" someone called out.

Audrey looked towards the door, watching Caitlin walk in, wearing sunglasses and with her hands in her pockets. Her posture was both aloof and commanding—she looked more like someone coming to collect a debt than someone about to apologize.

As Caitlin approached, Audrey instinctively touched her face, still feeling the lingering sting from the previous day.

Quade, who had only seen Caitlin's profile in the news, froze when he saw her fully. She was tall, dressed in black, and exuded a striking presence.

"Is that Caitlin?" Quade asked, almost to himself.

He couldn't help but think, this woman was quite stunning.

Audrey, recognizing the woman she hated, hissed through clenched teeth, "Yes, that's her! That's Caitlin!"

As Caitlin entered The Gray Family's grand living room, she took off her sunglasses. Quade, seeing her clearly for the first time, nearly spilled his tea. He was so stunned by her beauty that he didn't even notice the hot tea spilling onto his lap.

Her features were breathtaking, and the cold aura she carried only added to her allure. Quade couldn't help but feel a surge of jealousy. How could Sebastian have such incredible luck to find a woman like her, even in a marriage of convenience?

From a man's perspective, he almost envied Sebastian.

Audrey, on the other hand, was seething. She couldn't believe the



audacity of Caitlin's entrance.

"Mr. Gray, Audrey, I'm not late, am I?" Caitlin's calm voice cut through the tension as she made her way into the room.

Audrey stood up, her face twisting with malice. "Caitlin, yesterday you humiliated me in public, ruining my reputation. Today, you're going to kneel and apologize in front of everyone, or this won't be over!"

Caitlin's cold gaze swept over the room. Many of The Gray Family members were here to watch the show, and several of the men were looking at her with ill-intentions.

"Apologize on my knees? That's impossible."

Caitlin's posture was straight, showing no sign of submission.

"Caitlin, what do you mean? Didn't you agree to come and apologize? Are you backing out now?" Audrey pushed, her voice sharp and accusatory.

Caitlin let out a cold laugh and turned the tables. "You and your son were the ones who insulted a five-year-old child first. Did I do something wrong by hitting you? Have you told Mr. Gray the whole story?"

She then addressed Quade directly, "Mr. Gray, you probably think I started this mess and hit your wife. But if you knew how they insulted a five-year-old child, would you still demand that I apologize?"

Quade stood up, his demeanor cold. "No matter the reason, hitting my wife is wrong! Apologizing is the least I can offer you. Do you want me to take matters into my own hands?"

Caitlin's eyes gleamed with determination. "Mr. Gray, you have all the power in the world, and you've already made your move. The stock prices



of The Vanderbilt Family have plummeted, but why involve the company in my personal matters with Audrey?"

She remained fearless in front of The Gray Family.

At this point, the room was buzzing with hushed voices. The Gray Family members were exchanging glances, clearly expecting Caitlin to be subservient, but instead, she stood her ground.

Audrey, unable to contain her anger any longer, shouted, "Enough talking! She won't apologize—let's send her to the police! Get her locked up!"

Quade stared at Caitlin but didn't speak. He thought that such a beautiful woman sitting in jail would be a waste.

"Who's going to jail, you or me?" Caitlin asked nonchalantly.

"Mr. Gray, I'd like a private word with you."

Audrey, flaring up, sneered, "What trick are you playing now? You want to speak to my husband alone? Are you trying to seduce him, you little fox? Don't even think about it!"

Her insult made Caitlin's lips curl in disdain. "Not everyone can be a fox, Audrey. At least you need some actual charm for that! If you're so good at imagining things, why don't you try writing for a living?"

Caitlin flicked her hand dismissively, brushing Audrey off.

Audrey, infuriated, was about to slap Caitlin, but before she could, Caitlin grabbed her wrist with remarkable speed. Her eyes turned icy as she stared at Audrey, her voice venomous. "A fox can't just be anyone. You need the right qualities for that! But you? I think you might have a better



future in screenwriting!"

The tension in the room thickened. Audrey was now utterly enraged. She couldn't believe Caitlin's audacity to be so shamelessly arrogant in The Gray Family's home.

"Someone grab her!" Audrey commanded, as servants from The Gray Family rushed in.

But Caitlin had already anticipated this. She spun around with a quick sidekick, knocking one man flying. Another tried to grab her, but she executed a rapid series of kicks, sending them all tumbling to the floor.

Finally, she placed her foot firmly on one servant's head. "I don't want to resort to killing, so don't force me!"

Her words were cold and final. She was not joking.

Audrey's face turned crimson with rage, but the rest of The Gray Family members looked at Caitlin with newfound respect.

Who would have thought she was capable of such skill?

Quade was equally taken aback, and a flicker of intrigue passed through his eyes. He gave a command, "Everyone, leave her alone."

The servants scrambled to their feet, running out of the room in haste. Caitlin withdrew her foot as the last servant bolted out the door.

Turning to Quade, Caitlin spoke with chilling calm, "Mr. Gray, you want to talk? Why don't you hear me out about something that happened on June 22nd, ten years ago?"

Quade, who had maintained his composure up until now, froze. His face



paled slightly, and a trace of shock crossed his features.

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